



**Minutes**  
**Drug Treatment Court Subcommittee**  
**May 7, 2014**

**Committee Members Present**

Judge William Domina - Chair	Sam Benedict	Joan Sternweis
Sara Carpenter	Luann Anderson	John Wirkus
Kathy Madden	Dick Manke	

**Committee Members Absent**

Eric Severson	Brad Schimel
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**Others Present**

Karen Phillips	Rebecca Luczaj	Kristy Gusse
Judge Kathryn Foster	Andrea Will	

Domina called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

**Approve Minutes from February 3, 2014 Meeting**

The minutes of February 3, 2014 were approved unanimously.

**Review Drug Court Program Outcomes: February through April 2014 –**

Gusse distributed handouts titled “Waukesha County Drug Treatment Court Program – Wisconsin Community Services, Inc.” for February, March, and April 2014. Highlights of the April statistics were reviewed:

- 5 new participants accepted into the program
- 19 currently on waitlist
- 34 current participants in the program.

In response to Madden’s question, Domina stated that recidivism of Drug Treatment Court (DTC) graduates is not formally tracked. The possibility of forming a DTC alumni group was discussed.

Foster inquired whether statistics on all DTC applicants is tracked, including those who are not accepted into the program. Carpenter confirmed that information on all applicants is tracked on a spreadsheet, whether they are accepted into the DTC program or not. After further discussion, Benedict requested that statistics on applicants whom were not accepted into the program be scheduled for review at a future DTC Subcommittee meeting.

**Discuss & Consider Incentives & Sanctions Matrix for Implementation**

Copies of a draft DTC matrix model were distributed for review. The draft matrix proposal will also be provided to the DTC team for review.

Carpenter provided an overview of how the matrix model was researched and created. Gusse stated that a DTC graduate was interviewed for input from a participant's perspective. There was a clear message that some sanctions were not strong enough to impact behaviors; therefore, harsher sanctions are proposed. An incentives proposal is not included in the draft matrix model at this time.

Following discussion, Domina advised the committee to further review the draft matrix model and be prepared to give feedback at the next DTC committee meeting.

### **Discuss & Consider Plan for Establishing Drug Court Alumni Group**

Carpenter stated that she researched DTC alumni groups that exist around the nation. She presented the following findings, including considerations from a presentation at the national drug court conference:

- A professional is to be directly involved to monitor the groups
- A commitment by the treatment team as to the implementation of structure of the groups for consistency
- Rules or standards by which the group operates, e.g. the anonymity of the groups, who can attend, unacceptable conduct during group meetings, rules, where meetings are held, etc.
- Are the alumni groups mandatory or voluntary?
- If mandatory, whether to have treatment court participants become involved just prior to graduation, and how is this enforced?
- Frequency and time of meetings
- Who supervises the groups?
- Location of groups
- When are participants eligible to start attending?
- Process for approving treatment court graduates to run the groups
- Length of sobriety required before it is deemed appropriate to become a leader of a group, or mentor other new participants in the group
- The process or procedures for dealing with problems or conflicts that arise during group
- Tracking outcomes

Domina expressed concerns over the development of a program that would reinforce prior behaviors through a group mentality or negative influence of individuals.

Foster suggested a combined ATC/DTC alumni group.

Will stated she includes participation in an alumni group as a condition in the contract with DTC participants. She suggested perhaps working with the State Department of Corrections/Probation and Parole to develop an appropriate consequence for any violations by DTC graduates, who are now on misdemeanor parole.

### **Follow-Up: Continued Discussion on Admitting Methadone Clients into Drug Court**

Luczaj distributed and reviewed an email from Douglas Marlow of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP) and an excerpt from the NADCP's Best Practice Standards. The NADCP's position is that DTCs should follow evidence-based practices. This means that medication assisted treatment should be used when it is medically indicated and the treatment will be supervised by a physician with expertise in addiction psychiatry or addiction medicine. Therefore, methadone treatment should not be a basis for exclusion from the DTC program. Further discussion of the issue ensued.

**Update on 5/27 Drug Court Observation in Honor of National Drug Court Month**

Luczaj distributed a flyer for the Waukesha County Drug Court Observation Day, which will be held on Tuesday, May 27 at 1:15 p.m. at the Courthouse. Luczaj stated the list of invitees includes County Board Supervisors and the CJCC members. Confirmed attendees include Dr. Kim from Waukesha County Health & Human Services Clinical Services and a team from Trempealeau County.

**Update on Wisconsin's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)**

Will distributed an information pamphlet on the PDMP, which aims to reduce the abuse and diversion of prescription drugs. The PDMP collects information submitted by pharmacies, physicians, etc. to monitor prescription drugs dispensed to patients in Wisconsin. Will stated she would continue to pursue the possibility for the DTC team to gain access to the system in order to obtain information on DTC applicants, via their signed release, before they are accepted into the program.

**Future Agenda Items**

- Follow-up on incentives and sanctions matrix discussion
- Follow-up discussion on DTC alumni group
- DTC admissions data report in lieu of monthly DTC program outcomes reports

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.